

MAR 13 2015

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE BOARD OF AGRICULTURE AND AGRIBUSINESS DEVELOPMENT
CORPORATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS TO ADOPT DEFINITIONS FOR
SMALL AND LARGE FARMS.

1 WHEREAS, there is a need to define farms by the process of
2 the operations and not the acreage or amount of revenue; and
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4 WHEREAS, small farms, defined by the United States
5 Department of Agriculture as those with a gross cash farm income
6 less than \$350,000, range from retirement and residential farms
7 with little or no output to commercially oriented farms and with
8 operators employed full-time in agriculture; and
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10 WHEREAS, according to the 2012 Census of Agriculture, the
11 United States Department of Agriculture categorizes nearly
12 ninety-two percent of farms in Hawaii as small farms; and
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14 WHEREAS, neither the Department of Agriculture nor the
15 Agribusiness Development Corporation have clear definitions of
16 small and large farms; and
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18 WHEREAS, often times legislation is introduced that
19 includes language without a clear and concise definition; and
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21 WHEREAS, Hawaii needs Hawaii-specific language to bring
22 clarity to the definition of small and large farms and to be
23 able to measure changes in agricultural diversity; now,
24 therefore,
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26 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-eighth
27 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2015, the
28 House of Representatives concurring, that the Board of
29 Agriculture and the Agribusiness Development Corporation Board
30 of Directors are requested to adopt definitions of small farms
31 and large farms; and
32



S.C.R. NO. 144

1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that small farms be defined as farms
2 where ownership has direct management of daily operations and
3 works on the farm; and
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5 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that large farms be defined as farms
6 where ownership has hired management for daily operations and
7 does not work on the farm; and
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9 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Agriculture
10 and the Agribusiness Development Corporation use these
11 definitions for all administrative actions that require the
12 clear definition of the size of the farm; and
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14 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
15 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Chairperson of the
16 Board of Agriculture and the Chairperson of the Agribusiness
17 Development Corporation Board of Directors.
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OFFERED BY:

Ennamuchun Oakland

Breene Hunt
D.C. Smith-Adams

Will Zee

Dan Seidel
Ernie & Inez

Mark R.
Jen

James K. Ketch
Nichelle Sedani

P.

W. H. H.
Clarence K. Kishikawa

